REMARKS

Claims 1, 12, 16, 19, 22-24, and 27-29 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-29 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-29.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 recites an "interface configured to enable a user to manipulate digital collage elements to contribute collaboratively online with other users in a collaborative community to create a digital media artifact...." Hanson teaches collaboration through the use of electronic messages and electronic forms. Hanson does not teach the manipulation of digital collage elements. It would not be apparent from reading Hanson how to collaboratively manipulate digital collage elements as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-18 depend from Claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 19, 22, 23, and 27-29 also recite manipulating digital collage elements and are believed to be allowable for the reasons described above.

Claims 20-21 depend from Claim 19 and is believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Claims 24-26 depend from Claim 23 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Atty Docket No. VULCP004 8 of 9

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Jomes

Dated: 9/20/04

William J. James

Registration No. 40,661

V 408-973-2590

F 408-973-2595

VAN PELT AND YI, LLP 10050 N. Foothill Blvd., Suite 200 Cupertino, CA 95014